THE RAIDER

NEWCASTLE KB RAIDERS

March, 1, 1981
Vol. 4. No. 2.

50c

PHILIPS SOCCER LEAGUE AUSTRALIA

NEWCASTLE KB RAIDERS v BLACKTOWN DEMONS

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Team Name: Newcastle KB Raiders

Home Ground: Newcastle International Sports Centre, Turton Rd., New Lambton, N.S.W., 2305.

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COVER PIC: New look, new name. David Jones is featured on the cover of The Raider, the new name for Newcastle's official match programme. (Newcastle Herald).

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Newcastle KB Raiders v Blacktown Demons

It's a bit early in the year to label desperation as the driving force but there is no denying that a certain sense of urgency will compel Blacktown Demons to go all out for points against Newcastle KB Raiders today.

Today's game is the second leg of Blacktown's successive away games and after last week's loss to Adelaide Hawks the Demons find themselves with only one point from a possible four and staring down the barrell of a super-tough confrontation with one of the PSL's early pacesetters.

Newcastle KB Raiders and sister steel city Wollongong Wolves have taken the glory to the regional centres by heading the table after only two games. It's a long season and how long the honeymoon will last for the two N.S.W. industrial sides is anybody's guess but in a competition in which every match is tough, a side like Newcastle must look forward to a home match against Blacktown with a certain amount of relish. If that anticipation bubbles too close to over confidence, it will be one factor that newly-appointed Blacktown manager Rale Rasic might use to his advantage. As coach of the 1974 Socceroo World Cup finalists, he knows all about getting underdogs up and he'll have to score more than the odd upset this year if the transfer ravaged Demons are to finish clear of the bottom.

The Blacktown close-season exodus emptied the club of such names as George Harris, Paul Wilkinson, Ian Hunter and Warren Turnbull. Since leaving Adelaide City late last year, Rasic has found opportunity and cash as hard to come by as most other PSL coaches. He admits to being short of striking power but, despite last week's 2-0 defeat in Adelaide, must have been pleased by the way Brian O'Donnell and Ricky Hormazabal found the net in the first series draw against Brisbane Lions.

Jovan Djordjevic, who joined the Demons from Yugoslavia, at 29 is the most experienced and adaptable player in the side. A natural right side player who can slot in anywhere from fullback to winger, Djordjevic raised no objection when Rasic used him as a libero in the early games.

Branko Culina, a 23-year-old striker bought from the Croatia club in Melbourne is faced with the problem of having to handle the step up in grade just when Blacktown are requiring something extra from their forward line. Culina's ability to answer the call will be given the acid test today against a defence which has not conceded a goal in the first two PSL games.

Buckley On Target Again

Raiders' valuable left side signing Ian Buckley found the net for the second time in successive games to bring the points back home with a meritorious hard fought 1-0 win over Brisbane Lions last week. Buckley's goal gave Newcastle a maximum four points from two games. It was a great follow-up to his goal the previous week against Footscray. After just two games Newcastle have scored four and have retained a perfect defensive record. The four goals have come from Buckley (2) and Malcolm McClelland, who scored twice against Footscray.

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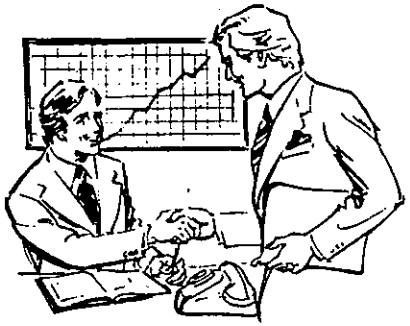

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ALAN VEST

It's always great to get off to a good start to the season and with two (2) wins, four (4) goals scored and no goals conceded, it makes things look even better.

Against Footscray, we started very sloppily for the first ten (10) minutes but could have had even more goals as we created numerous chances. The weather in Brisbane had a great bearing on the game and it was very hard to get out of first gear. The temperature was 100°F and 100% humidity which certainly took its toll. David Jones had slight concussion and lasted only half-an-hour; Malcolm McClelland had to go off at half-time with heat exhaustion and many other players suffered too.

Credit to the lads who stuck at the task in hand with fine displays from Paul Reaney, Arno Bertogna, Joe Senkalski and Bob Mountford. The new players have found the heat and humidity very hard to combat, but all have acquitted well and we'll see them even better as the weather cools.

It's early days yet and we've many hard games to come but with four (4) points on the board, we have something to build from.

Today we entertain Blacktown Demons and Rale Rasic who although not starting off too well, will be a tough nut to crack. Rale reckons his Yugoslav import Djordeovic is the best player in Australia and together with the likes of Milovanovic, Selfridge and O'Donnell will be looking for points today. We hope it's a good entertaining and exciting game, so keep up that support.

NEWCASTLE KB UNITED manager-coach ALAN VEST rides in championship style in a MAZDA from BENNETT'S of Islington, Newcastle West, Wallsend and Belmont North.

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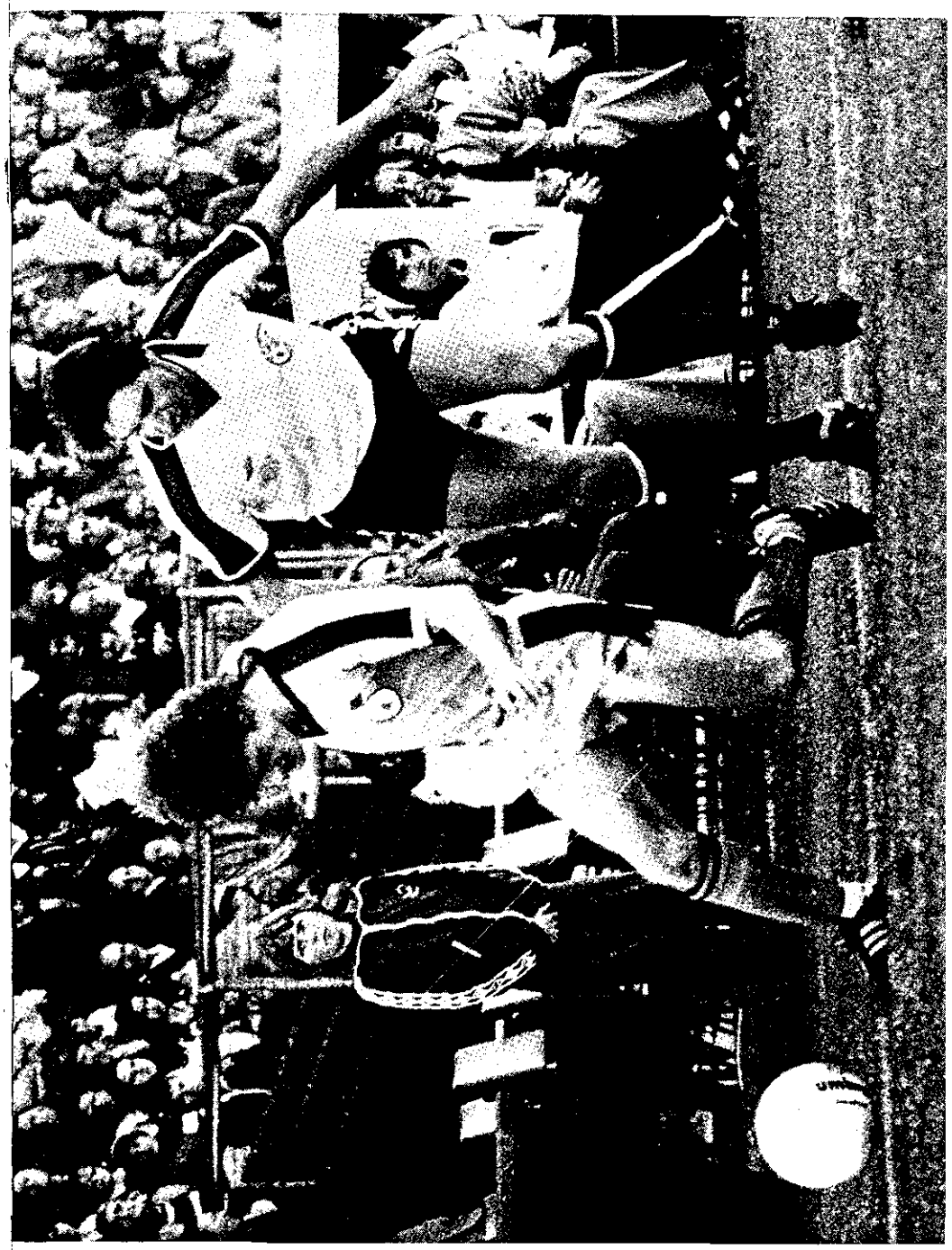

Graham Heys rounds his man during the Newcastle v Blacktown 1980 clash at the ISC.
(Newcastle Herald)

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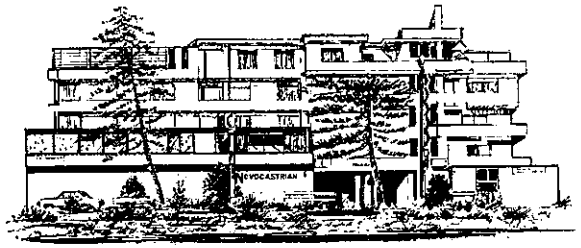

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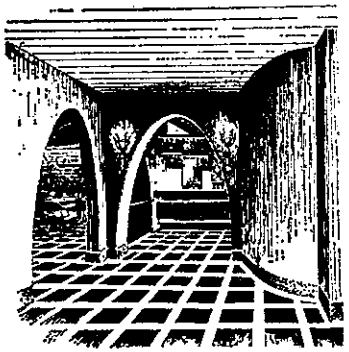

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Rasic Rates the Raiders

Rale Rasic's decision to join Blacktown Demons for the 1981 season brought the former World Cup coach back to Sydney, the city which has been the scene of his greatest soccer triumphs. It is Rasic's favourite town and he made it his headquarters while preparing the team for the 1974 World Cup finals. Blacktown, regarded as one of the Phillips League's minnows since joining in 1980, is the sort of challenge that Rasic relishes. The club is young, chock full of ambition and smack in the middle of an urban growth area which promises a steady stream of young talent.

Rasic is the first to admit that winning the PSL championship is something that few clubs can expect from a coach in only his first season. He realises what sort of challenge he faces in 1981. By off-loading former coach Mick Jones in favour of Rasic, it was obvious Blacktown were prepared to shell out the money in the hope of picking up a trophy or two in the near future. It means that the team must show marked improvement this year with the promise of better to come. Anything less would be a failure.

So, what about this year? Rale Rasic has already gone on record tipping 1981 as a two-way battle between Newcastle KB Raiders and South Melbourne Gunners. Did we hear right? Does that really mean that somebody outside of Newcastle actually believes the Raiders have a chance of grabbing the title? "Why not", says Rasic. "Both Newcastle and South Melbourne have settled sides under coaches who have gradually built and bought with a plan in mind."

But what about Marconi, Heidelberg and Sydney Slickers?

"I believe that Newcastle Raiders are already superior to Marconi and I'm not even taking into account how much Marconi will be stretched by representative commitments. Have you noticed how Marconi almost invariably lose after a representative game? With so many players on call for Australia, I think Marconi will find it hard this year.

"At this stage I think Newcastle's side is better than Heidelberg's and Sydney Slickers will suffer for the same reason as Marconi."

So, just how much does Rasic know about this United side?

"I suspect that Ian Buckley is one of the most complete wingers in Australia and that Steve Sumner and Duncan Cole (with Canberra Arrows) are a better midfield combination for New Zealand than Boden and Barnes are for Australia.

"At the moment I'd rate the Adelaide Giants (his side last year) as possessing the best defence in the PSL but the Newcastle back four of Curran, Bertogna, Drinkwater and Reaney must know almost every blade of grass on the circuit. The Newcastle midfield appears a very settled combination and Alan Vest's only problem in the front line is who to leave out. There is balance throughout the side and I'll be very surprised if it doesn't perform very well this year."

This season will be a building year for Blacktown. The club recently underwent a $½ million dollar building addition to its licensed premises adjoining the Gabbie Stadium. With the finance generated from the licensed operation, Blacktown can look to a respectable showing in '81 with improvement and possible honours as the bait for the near future.

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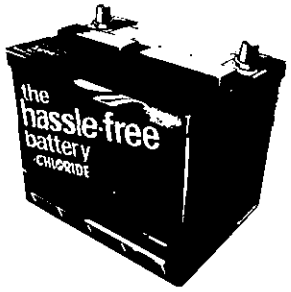

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Match and Ball Sponsorship

Allco Steel and **Newcastle and Hunter MediCare Health Fund** beat everybody to the punch by claiming match sponsorships for the first home game against Footscray and the August 9 match against Sydney Slickers respectively.

Newcastle KB United is anticipating a great year in 1981 and once again we're seeking your company's support in our match sponsorship promotions. The club is selling individual match sponsorship for $1,000 per game. First in gets the choice of whichever match they choose from our 15 scheduled home league games this season. In exchange United offers exposure in all pre-match press and radio advertising, on-ground public address advertising, company banners and signs at the ground plus expansive programme coverage.

Check your fixtures card because we've got some great clashes coming up including our next home game against Wollongong Wolves, the PSL's new member club, on March 29. The Wolves will bring plenty of support with them to ensure a big attendance.

For further information and match schedule contact Mr. David Brown on 67-2244 (business).

NEWCASTLE AND HUNTER MEDI CARE HEALTH FUND

Newcastle and Hunter MediCare Fund (formerly The Store Medical Fund) signed on for the full season as 1981 Umbro ball sponsor for PSL and Philips Cup games.

At $50 for each home match it represents great support from a fund that has always backed Newcastle.

Umbro Sponsorkit

In 1981 we're repeating our tremendously popular offer for club supporters to have direct involvement by sponsoring an individual player for the outfitting of his playing strip and training gear. It costs $90 per kit to outfit each player and you can check with the team sheet on page 19 for which player you might like to back. But we can tell you now that the following players have already been "signed" —

1. Phil Dando ..... Harley and Dorothy Dixon
2. Paul Reaney ..... Yarrahappini Investments Pty. Ltd.
4. Joe Senkalski ..... Richard Puxty
5. Arno Bertogna ..... Carol's Corner Hair and Beauty Salon, Warners Bay
6. Roy Drinkwater ..... Darrell Story Motors of Islington
7. Steve Sumner ..... Reids Investments Pty. Ltd.
8. Bob Mountford ..... Eric and June Jennison, BP Warners Bay
9. David Jones ..... Nikki's Parfumerie, The Junction
10. Graham Heys ..... Gordon Anderson Promotions
11. Ian Buckley ..... Ian Ford, Painting Contractor, Wallsend
12. Craig Mason ..... David Brown Real Estate, Mayfield
13. Paul Burrows ..... C. Szekelyhidi, Painting Contractor, Charlestown
14. John Sneddon ..... The Dunlop Family
15. Col Curran ..... Russell and Spencer Insurance Brokers Pty. Ltd.
21. Grant Storey ..... Fin Aluminium, Edgeworth

You can add your name to this list by contacting Mr. David Brown on 67-2244 (business).

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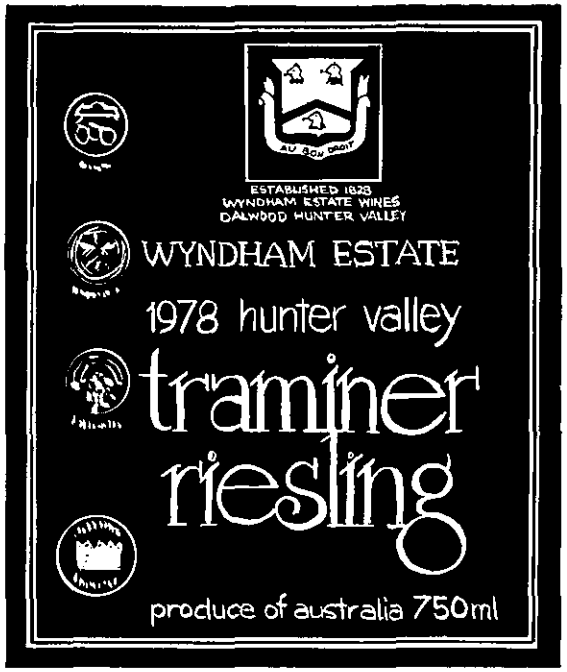
Rale Rasic: "Football is a passion. Players must have feeling for what they do."
(Newcastle Herald).



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YOUTH LEAGUE:
NEWCASTLE UNITED V BLACKTOWN

Blacktown Demons, entrants in the Australian Youth League, find themselves in Newcastle today frustrated by a spell of wet weather which has left them drastically short of match practice.

While the Allco Steel-sponsored Newcastle Youths had a bye last week following their fine 3-2 first series win over Sydney Slickers, the Blacktown boys were rained out for the second week in succession. It has caused a few problems for coach Frank Healey who has worked hard to prepare a squad of players whose ages average out well below the under-19 requirement. The majority of the Blacktown youths were drawn from the local Toongabbie area with one or two joining from suburbs farther afield. Healey is expected to strengthen his side with the addition of PSL squad striker Mark Quarmby who with youth team striker David Batten was a member of last year's N.S.W. under-16 representative side. Batten, rated as a natural goalscorer, was in Blacktown's N.S.W. State first division side last year and finished the season as the club's second highest scorer.

The oldest player in the squad is 18-year-old right back John Parkinson, another former State representative. Most members of the squad played in the club's 1980 third grade side so they should have already developed a solid understanding. It was Newcastle's ability to combine so well in only their first competition game which impressed those who saw the Sydney Slickers encounter. Youth coach Frank Campbell has made great headway in such a short time and Newcastle supporters already know it is worth getting to the ground early to catch the youth team in action. The representatives of Allco Steel, who recently pledged sponsorship for the Newcastle Youth Squad, were in attendance and felt justifiably proud of their new project's first competition showing.

(KICK OFF 1 p.m.)

NEWCASTLE UNITED
(Emerald, cinnamon & white)

Daryl Slatyer (G.K.)
Howard Tredinnick
Glen Wand
Simon Brandt
Neil Anderson
Bernard Kirby
Nigel Drysdale
Robbie Green
Ross Wells
Tony Caban
George Rafty
Ralph Maier
Grant Storey

Coach:
Frank Campbell

Manager:
Alf Quill

BLACKTOWN DEMONS
(Red, black & white)

Steve Kean (G.K.)
Mark Dodd
Gary Frost
Ray Bajada
John Parkinson
Fred Lum
David Pruss
Glen Johnston
Glen Davis
John Galic
David Batten
Stuart Purcell
Frank Colussi (r.g.k.)

Coach:
Keith Healey

Manager:
Neil Cook

Referee: Mr. R. Davies

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	BLACKTOWN DEMONS

NEWCASTLE KB RAIDERS

1. PHIL DANDO
2. PAUL REANEY
3. HOWARD TREDINNICK
4. JOE SENKALSKI
5. ARNO BERTOGNA
6. ROY DRINKWATER
7. STEVE SUMNER
8. BOB MOUNTFORD
9. DAVID JONES
10. GRAHAM HEYS

MANAGER: Alan Vest

COLOURS: Gold, red and black

ALTERNATE STRIP: Emerald, cinnamon and white

11. IAN BUCKLEY
12. CRAIG MASON
13. PAUL BURROWS
14. JOHN SNEDDON
15. COL CURRAN
16. DAVID KAMASZ
17. MALCOLM McCLELLAND
18. BRETT COWBURN
19. ALF STAMP
20. CLINT GOSLING
21. GRANT STOREY

REFEREE: Mr. Chris Bambridge

KICK OFF 3.00

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4. MIKE MILOVANOVIC
5. CLIFF POINTER
6. STUART SELVAGE
7. JOVAN DJORDJEVIC
8. RICKY HORMAZABAL
9. BRANKO CULINA

MANAGER: Rale Rasic

COLOURS: Red, black, and white

10. BRIAN O'DONNELL
11. NEIL MANNING
12. MIKE QUARMBY
13. PETER CUK
14. CARLOS ORTEGA
15. TONY RASMUSSEN
16. CRAIG WALLACE
17. NEIL PEARSON
20. PETER FREEMAN

BLACKTOWN DEMONS

RESULT — NEWCASTLE		BLACKTOWN	

COL. CURRAN

BHP

BHP "1000" PLAYER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Newcastle KB Raiders' highest individual award is one of the great incentive schemes on offer this year and after only two games, the pressure is on with all squad members in pursuit of the $1000 cash prize and $500 medallion. To judge the series three adjudicators are appointed for each of Newcastle's home and away games. Each player's performance is evaluated on a One to 10 score basis. The three sets of judges scores are then averaged to decide each player's score per match. The tallies are based on a seasonal average with each player required to play in a minimum 15 games. Naturally, the player with the highest average when the season ends is the winner.

Name	No.	Av. Pts.
Bob Mountford	8	8.50
Paul Reaney	2	8.25
Joe Senkalski	4	8.06
Arno Bertogna	5	7.82
Phil Dando	1	7.50
Roy Drinkwater	6	7.25
Steve Sumner	7	7.25
Ian Buckley	11	7.07
Malcolm McClelland	17	7.00
Col Curran	15	6.67
David Jones	9	6.17
Graham Heys	10	6.09
Craig Mason	12	6.00

McClelland Wins First Abercrombie's Menswear Prize

Newcastle KB Raiders striker Malcolm McClelland won the first Abercrombie's Menswear Player of the Match award with a brilliant showing against Footscray on February 15.

Malcolm received the Pelaco shirt and trousers by Zed's prize which is on offer from Abercrombie's for the best performed Raider at each home match.

It was a great start to the 1981 season for the young striker. He helped open Newcastle's account in the ninth minute with a telling 25 metre pass which set Ian Buckley clear to score his first PSL goal.

Fifteen minutes later McClelland struck again when he seized onto a short pass from a Joe Senkalski free kick to rocket a right foot shot into the roof of the net.

Any chance Footscray might have had of battling back into contention evaporated in the 31st minute. Graham Heys rounded his marker on the right wing and thumped a perfect cross into the penalty area where McClelland, although pressured by the defence, controlled the ball with his chest before firing a low shot past goalkeeper Dennis Boland.

The Joe Senkalski-McClelland combination almost produced Malcolm's hat-trick late in the match as the striker made up tremendous ground to latch on to the end of a chip from the right. It took an athletic leap from Boland to divert the header around the woodwork.

In general play, McClelland impressed with his competitiveness, vision and his ability to consistently beat the man. The effort made him a worthy winner of the Abercrombie's Award.

Philips Cup

Newcastle KB Raiders will play the First Round of the Philips Cup against Canberra Arrows at the Bruce Stadium, Sunday 22nd March.

Craig Mason, one of the club's longer serving players, puts the side into attack with a flick-on header.

(Newcastle Herald)

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Brisbane Gladiators	1	1	—	3	2	3
South Melbourne Gunners	1	1	—	3	2	3
Sydney Slickers	1	1	—	2	1	3
Canberra Arrows	1	1	—	1	—	3
Adelaide Hawks	1	—	1	3	2	2
Marconi Leopards	1	—	1	1	1	2
Footscray Eagles	1	—	1	2	4	2
Leichhardt Strikers	—	1	1	3	4	1
Brisbane Lions	—	1	1	2	3	1
Adelaide Giants	—	1	1	—	1	1
Sydney Olympians	—	1	1	3	5	1
Blacktown Demons	—	1	1	2	4	1
Heidelberg Warriors	—	1	1	2	5	1
Preston Rams	—	—	2	—	2	—

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Fun and Games for Socceroos

Hey, kids! Do you recognise the two fun characters on these pages? If you don't, you soon will. They're two of the 13 Socceroo cartoon figures released last week by the Australian Soccer Federation Marketing Group and Hanna-Barbera. You'll be seeing plenty of the 13 figures — 11 players plus a coach and referee — during the approaching World Cup campaign.

Usable combined or separately, the 13 characters range in individuality from Captain Australia through Angelo (born in Europe), Big Red (the biggest member of the team) to Joey, the youngest member, "and a bit cheeky". The ref is called Wef ("the best kangawoo weferwee in Austwalia) and the coach is called Bruce.

Also newly available is the ASF emblem and all are being made available to sponsors and licensees in a wide range of categories. Exclusive rights are also negotiable by product category.

This year and next will see an even greater interest by the public in the sport, as the Australian national team, the Socceroos, battles its way through the preliminaries to the 1982 World Cup in Spain.

The newly-acquired national TV coverage, through Channel 0/28 in Sydney and Melbourne and associated commercial stations elsewhere, gets into stride this year in the only sustained national coverage of a football code.

The new characters, which are being merchandised through Hanna-Barbera, are designed to appeal to children, of whom 300,000 — boys and girls — are currently playing. And, claims ASFM's executive director, Rik Booth, soccer is the one sport in Australia where the kids are influencing the parents. "The general soccer audience is mainly young, white collar and very family orientated," he says.

This week's launch is but the first of several planned this year by ASFM, in an overall licensing programme which will embrace Philips Soccer League club emblems and, later, State federation, referees' federation and women's soccer association emblems. Also in the pipeline this decade are sponsorship and licensing programmes for the Youth Soccer Development Programme.

This year is going to be a vintage year for the sport. Not only is the national team going to be fighting its way into next year's world finals in Spain, but the World Youth Championship for the Coca-Cola Cup will take place in Australia in October.

Merchandising opportunity and interest are also poised to set record levels. Newcastle supporters can order their posters of the Socceroo characters from the Supporters' Club van.

We'll be seeing these characters in the extensive soccer programme planned for the 0-28 National TV network this year. The Network's plans include:—

A Weekly Australian Soccer Show:

This will be a one hour programme which will be aired in a weekly prime time slot. It will comprise a composite of the following sorts of material. It will have approximately 20-30 minutes of Philips Soccer League highlights, state soccer highlights, soccer news coverage and reportage from around the world. Philips League "Goal of the Month" type segments, interviews with Philips Soccer League and Australian National and Youth Squad players. "Player of the Week" segments and general soccer footage from Australian National Team endeavours.

It will be a complete composite programme hosted by a yet to be appointed soccer personality and authority. It will be designed specifically to promote the awareness and involvement by the general public in Australian soccer, its players and its personalities.

A Childrens Programme:

This will be a weekly childrens soccer programme shown in either weekends or prime time weekday spots of approximately 30 minutes in duration.

It will be specifically designed to provide general coaching and training for children between the ages of 8 and 16 about how to play the game and its general rules. It will include Philips Soccer League edited highlights, interviews with soccer personalities, on-air contests, soccer training and coaching demonstrations, general footage from Australian National and Youth Squad matches plus where relevant footage from overseas soccer material of either specific matches or coaching films.

Philips Soccer League Matches:

Specific telecasts will be arranged either live or on a replay basis of specific Philips Soccer League matches either in full or as edited highlights.

It is expected by all of the aforegoing and the involvement of the various individual stations and the networks that the majority of Philips Soccer League games played each week will receive coverage of some sort in various programming activities.

The European Cup:

The network will broadcast a selection of matches from the European Cup each year. The decision on which matches will be made relative to the individual teams participating and the anticipated appeal and applicability to the Australian public.

European Cup Winners Cup:

The network will broadcast a selection of matches from the European Cup Winners Cup each year. The decision on which matches will be made relative to the individual teams participating and the anticipated appeal and applicability to the Australian public.

Overseas Soccer:

The network will also broadcast from time to time major matches of either the respective national leagues or international matches from Brazil, Argentina, Italy and Yugoslavia.

Australian National Team International Matches:

The network will broadcast various matches played within Australia and on overseas trips by the Australian National Team of friendly matches and specifically the elimination matches between the Australian National Team and other sides as part of the qualifying rounds for the 1982 World Cup.

In addition the network will, over the next few months, be finalising their intentions and arrangements relative to the broadcast of other types of soccer of both a domestic and international type.

Full details of any further arrangements regarding these types of soccer will be released progressively as soon as they are to hand and finalised in each case.

Notes:

i) Indoor Soccer is not included in the current agreement.

ii) Other networks currently broadcasting English soccer material will continue their respective arrangements.

iii) The Channel '0' Network will make available to any network or specific station in any part of Australia all or any of the soccer programming material it has contracted rights for.

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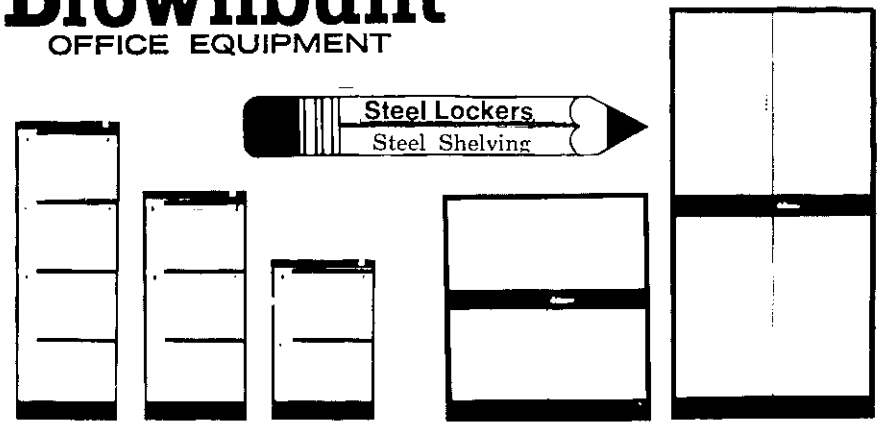

35
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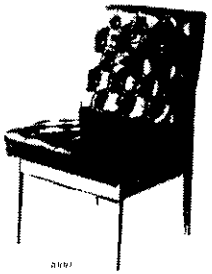
1946-1981



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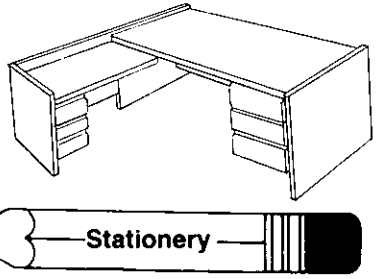

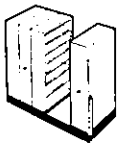

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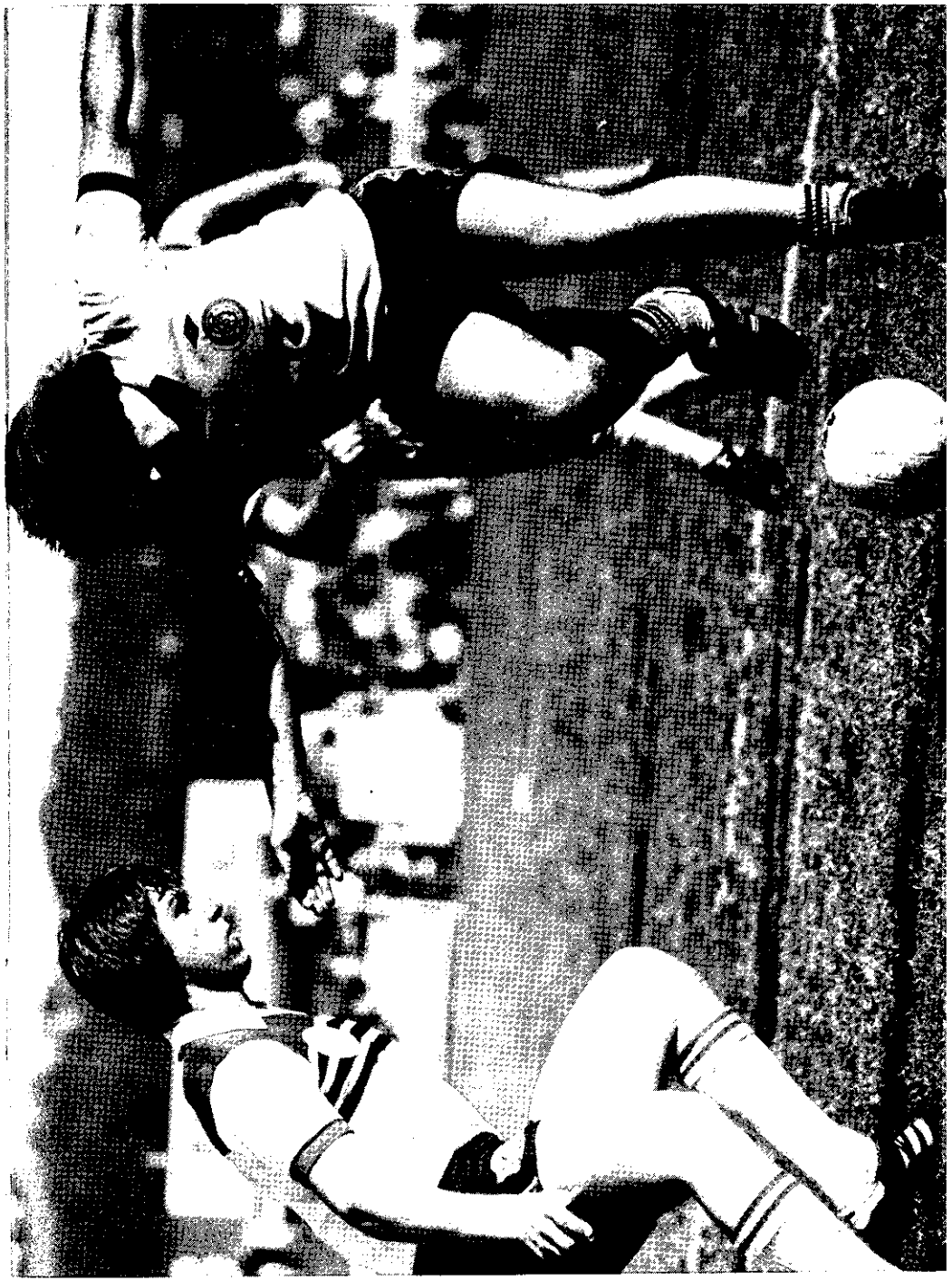
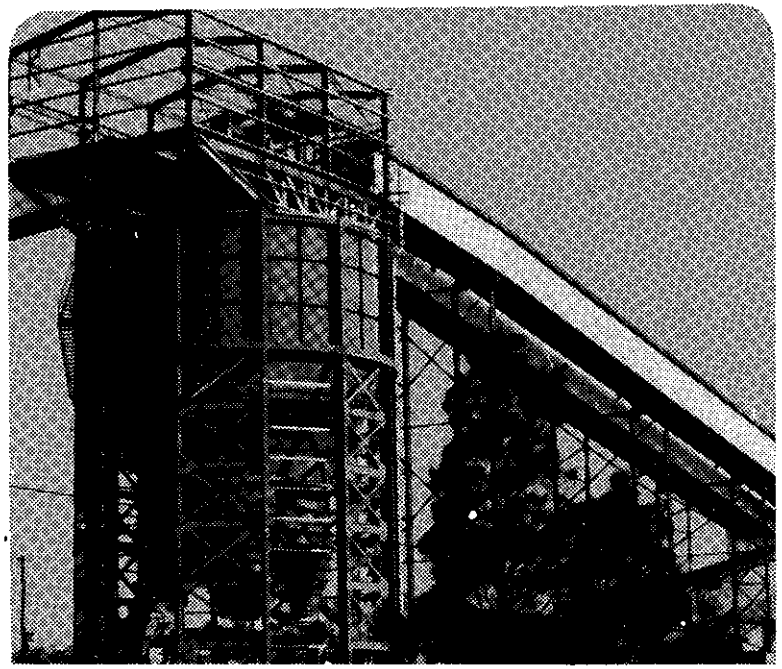


Mexican stand-off? Hardly. Heidelberg's Jimmy Campbell confronts Arno Bertogna.
(Newcastle Herald).



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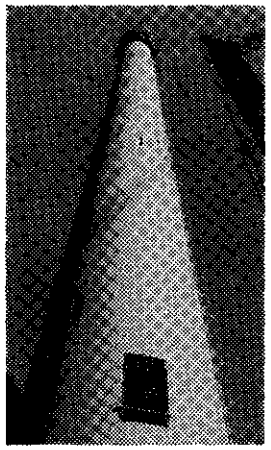

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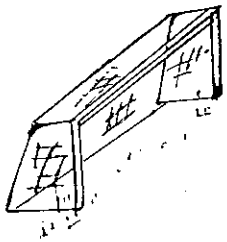

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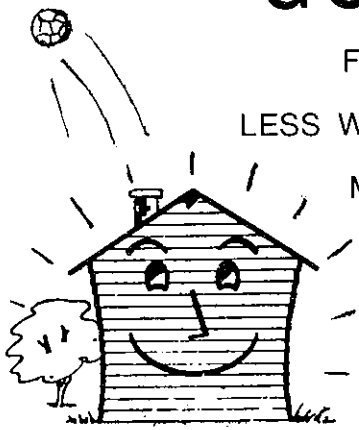

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SHORT PASSES

FIRSTS — Ian Buckley didn't waste any time getting among the goals. He scored in only his ninth minute of PSL football with our first goal against Footscray. Grant Storey gets the nod for being the first youth squad player to score for Newcastle United Youth. Although Alf Stamp actually scored first in the recent 3-2 win against Sydney Slickers Youth, he is an over-age player so the credit for the first **youth** goal goes to Grant who scored Newcastle's second of the match.

* * * *

Those supporters lucky or smart enough to arrive early and watch the Youth action must have been impressed by the skills of Alf Stamp. We've got a few punters forming the Stamp Collection as a sort of Alf Stamp fan club. Wonder if the Newcastle Kern Falcons will get in on the act for one of their basketball stars, Cal Stamp?

* * * *

Attention Blacktown Demons officials, players and supporters: We've started a campaign to persuade all PSL clubs to adhere to their official assigned shirt numbers for all competition matches. We've had numerous complaints from fans about the failure of visiting teams to stick to the numbers as provided to the PSL office at the start of the season. Producing a match programme becomes a futile exercise if either team fails to honour the correct number system. We're hoping all you Blacktown folks will help us spread the word.

* * * *

Full points to the Rowdies, the most vocal section of the Newcastle crowd, for taking up the "Raiders" chant so readily. More of it please, but not when the teams are being announced — it's so darn hard to pencil in players names after the PA has bounced them around the roof and rafters of that acoustic nightmare — the ISC grandstand.

* * * *

You might have noticed some publicity for a bumper benefit night at Cardiff District Workers Club on Tuesday. Well, here's the details: An outstanding bracket of artists including Carter Edwards, Chris Drummond, Kerri Wright, W. P. Brennan, Clayton Davis and Mario de 'andrea will donate their services free to benefit the House With No Step's drive to "Bring Down The Barriers" in this International Year of Disabled Persons. Tickets are only $4 each and are available now from the House With No Steps and Cardiff Workers.

* * * *

The Newcastle club directors, playing staff and Supporters' Club officials receive many verbal suggestions, complaints views and contributions from the people who see our games. If you've got something to contribute by way of criticism, praise, suggestion or whatever please feel free to write C/- The Secretary, Newcastle United Soccer Club Limited, P.O. Box 5027A, Newcastle West, N.S.W. 2302. We'll gladly print a letters column providing we receive enough worthy contributions.

* * * *

Newcastle KB Raiders next two matches are both away games. The team meets Adelaide Hawks on March 8 and Leichhardt on March 15. Our next home match is against Wollongong Wolves on March 29. **DON'T FORGET,** as from March 29 we will revert to 2.30pm kick-offs. Youth matches will start at 12.30pm.

* * * *

As most supporters can't travel inter-state for our away games we suggest you take the chance to see the Allco Steel-sponsored youth side play Marconi at Bossley Park while the senior team is in South Australia playing the Adelaide Hawks. The senior fixture is Marconi v Brisbane Gladiators. Some of our youth players will be the PSL stars of the future so let's give them our support now.

* * * *

Sunday soccer and three points for a win. That's the astounding news from England, football's founding country and strongest defendant of the games rules and traditions. While it will only be a few clubs who will switch to Sunday games, the three-point win move has caused a bit of reaction. The intent is to provide incentive for teams to play more adventurous, attacking football but some experts argue that it could have the reverse effect. Said one manager: "We all know how good some sides are at closing up a game. If you get such a side 2-nil up afer 20 minutes, they could well spend the rest of the match defending in mass rather than going after more goals and risking losing the three points."

* * * *

The PSL tried a three-point scheme in 1979 based on a four-goal winning margin. It justified plenty of press debate but in the final analysis, the desired effect — more goals — was lacking. A comparison of the 78-79 for and against goal tallies showed very little difference.

* * * *

Other PSL matches this weekend are:—
Leichhardt Strikers v Brisbane Lions
Brisbane Gladiators v Canberra Arrows
Adelaide Giants v Marconi Leopards
Preston Rams v Sydney Olympians
South Melb. Gunners v Heidelberg Warriors
Wollongong Wolves v Footscray Eagles
Sydney Slickers v Adelaide Hawks

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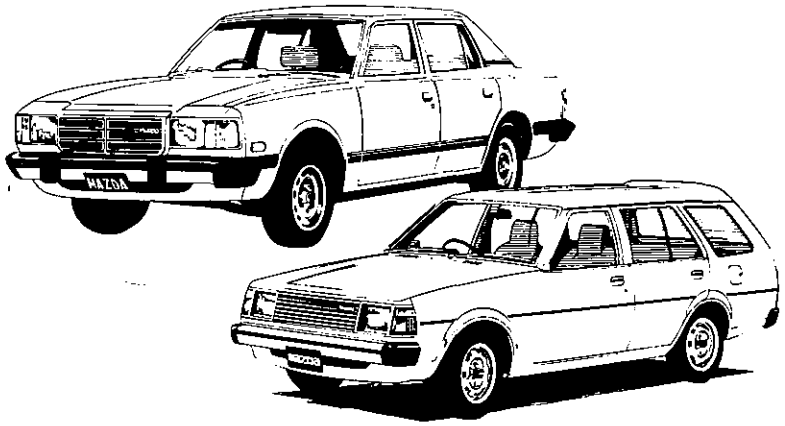

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SUPPORTERS' CLUB NEWS

by Allyn Priest

What a great way to start the season, with a home crowd of almost 6,000 seeing a 3-0 win, scored in very promising style, against Footscray Eagles. Newcastle KB Raiders are indeed set for a big year, and with the help of you, the Supporter, it can be the biggest year yet; which brings me to my topic for the week **"HELP"**.

How can you help? Well start by answering the following questions.

1. Do you make an effort to attend every home match?
2. Do you travel to away matches on the Supporters Club buses?
3. Are you a member of the Supporters' Club?
4. Are you are a member of the Soccer Club?
5. Do you buy Golden Goal tickets?
6. Do you buy raffle tickets?
7. Do you buy a programme?
8. Do you buy promotional items from the caravan?
9. Are you a Goal Sponsor?

If you answered all these questions with a "yes", you are indeed an excellent supporter, but you can still help further: (more about that later). On the other hand you may be the bloke who brings the wife and kids, and half the neighbours kids; pays all the fares in, buys a programme, sneaks a couple of golden goals, and of course snacks all round at half time. By this time your broke and feeling you've done your bit, but you too, can do more.

For the club to survive this season, financially, it must achieve an average crowd of 6,000 at every home match, and the Supporters' Club must raise $70,000 during the season. With 15 PSL fixtures at home and possibly 5 other matches, the Supporters' Club would be expected to raise an almost impossible $3,500 per match.

Now here's how you can help; simply bring a friend, a neighbour, a workmate, a lover, or even an enemy, but bring someone. If 50% of programme readers bring one person next home match our crowd will increase by 1,000; and if we could reach and maintain an average of 8,000 the club would be in a much better position to achieve its goals in future seasons. Please make a special effort to help in this way, to ensure the future of Newcastle United.

* * * *

The winner of the Silver Pendant, raffled at the last home match, was Grace Wells of Aberdare. Congratulations Grace and thanks for your support.

Another Silver Pendant will be raffled today, so be sure to get your tickets.

* * * *

Mr. Jakes of Valentine, and Mellissa McKendry of Charlestown, each won $100 for the first Golden Goal time at the Footscray Match. A half page explanation of the new Golden Goal prizes appeared in the last match programme, but unfortunately the second prizes were not claimed.

A prize of $25.00 is payable to holder of the ticket with the time of the last goal scored. This time is announced at the conclusion of the match and may be claimed at the Supporters' Caravan immediately.

* * * *

New stock items available at the Caravan now, are, knitted brooches, coat hangers, peanut pillows, small humpty dumpty mascots, and large flags, all, of course, in club colours.

The knitted brooches are available at only $1.00 or if you wish you may buy the same item at The Junction for $4.00. Peanut pillows are a must at the beach and coat hangers are always needed. The kids just love the humpty mascots, and they are available in both sets of club colours for only $2.00. The large flags are a new line for 81, in top quality cotton with a screen printed club emblem, and are a steal at only $3.50. Visit the caravan today and have a look at these, and many other new lines.

* * * *

Goal sponsor payments for February are now due and may be made today at the caravan.

We are still looking for people to become Goal Sponsors for the 81 season. If you are interested please contact Basil Arratoon or myself today.

* * * *

The next General Meeting of the Supporters' Club will be held Tuesday next, March 3, at 7.30pm at the ISC. Members and guests are invited to attend this meeting.

The Newcastle KB United cheer squad is trained by Miss Kim Walton (A.R.A.D.) principal of the M. and K. Ballet Academy at Charlestown.

IN THEIR OWN WRITE

Soccer writers tip Sydney Slickers to retain title

A quick poll of some of Sydney's leading soccer journalists has revealed that the powerful Sydney Slickers are favoured to repeat last year's effort by winning the PSL championship in 1981.

Two interesting trends tipped by the scribes are that Marconi might struggle to stay in touch while Newcastle Raiders could be the one to move right into the top bracket. Most agreed that heavy World Cup commitments will take a toll on such clubs Marconi and Heidelberg while Sydney Slickers, because of their tremendous depth, should survive such ravages.

The question we put to the following writers was: Who do you think will take PSL honours this year?

BRIAN CURRAN (Sydney Morning Herald): "Sydney Slickers — odds on. They won it last year and have strengthened their squad with the addition of Agenor Muniz and John Kosmina. The danger could come from (South) Melbourne Gunners and Newcastle KB Raiders. Marconi's representative chores will make things very difficult for them, especially now that the club doesn't have the depth of a couple of seasons ago. It was shown last year that some of the Marconi stars don't come up so well after representative games. Heidelberg have been able to rely on a nucleus of senior players but those players are one year older now and with the extra load from the national team call, it could have an effect on their chances.

ANDREW DETTRE (Soccer World): It's between Marconi and Sydney Slickers with Heidelberg, Newcastle and (South) Melbourne Gunners close behind. Why Marconi? Although the club doesn't have great depth, it's got that one important ingredient: talent. The natural talent in that team is immense plus they have a great training and club set-up which generates the sort of atmosphere inducive to results.

Sydney Slickers have great stability and tremendous wealth. They are well coached and have a professional set-up. But their players find it unnerving to continually play at home to no crowds and this can show in the results — particularly in the second round.

Heidelberg, Newcastle and Melbourne Gunners are the three clubs with the ability to split the top two. They're great sides but I don't think they have that extra touch needed to win the title. The bottom of the ladder will be a desperate struggle between Preston, Footscray, Wollongong, Brisbane Gladiators, Adelaide Hawks and Sydney Olympians.

I honestly don't think Newcastle are ready for the number one spot. They'll do better than last year and will be very hard to beat. But they seem to lack that little bit of class needed to pull it off.

DAVID JACK (Sydney Sun): Sydney Slickers from (South) Melbourne Gunners and Heidelberg. Marconi might be decimated by injuries that one or two key players are carrying plus their national team commitments. The side often does poorly after a rep game. Adelaide Giants (City) were fourth last year but I think they'll find it tough with the club facing financial difficulty. Neither Brisbane side appears to have the talent nor the money to make a real impression. Of the new clubs, I think Woolongong Wolves could show up.

GREG PRICHARD (The Australian): Sydney Slickers, with (South) Melbourne Gunners the danger. Marconi could easily finish out of the top four. There's not much depth there and there is already a record of injuries to top players. Heidelberg also have some injury worries and their World Cup commitments might expose their shortage of experienced reserves. South Melbourne must have a great chance. They have experience and balance and will not lose so many players to the World Cup side. I'm tipping Newcastle as the dark horse, remembering that it is a straight championship race this year, with no final four series.

JOHN TAYLOR (Daily Telegraph): Muniz and Kosmina are great acquisitions and two of the reasons why Sydney Slickers should win. The side has tremendous depth and the club is not afraid to spend to cover any deficiencies. (South) Melbourne Gunners look good on paper and if their class players can produce the goods, they'll be hard to beat. Heidelberg and Marconi will be in touch but the World Cup is bound to have an effect on both sides.

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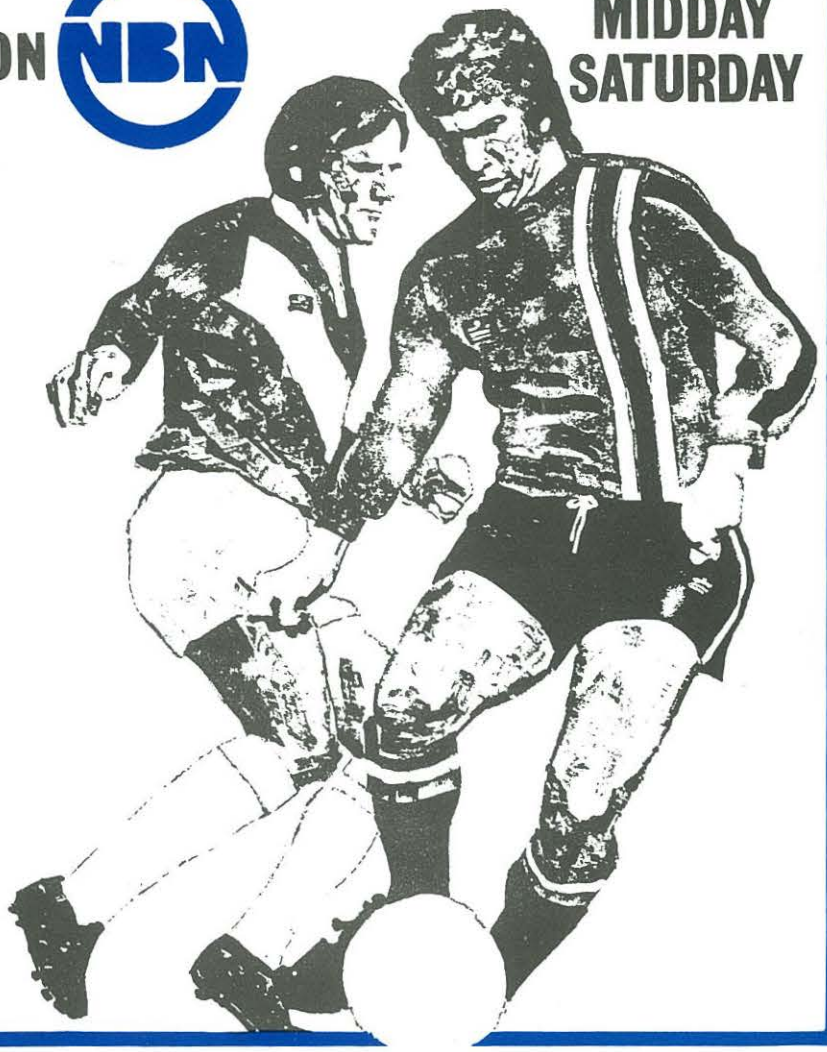
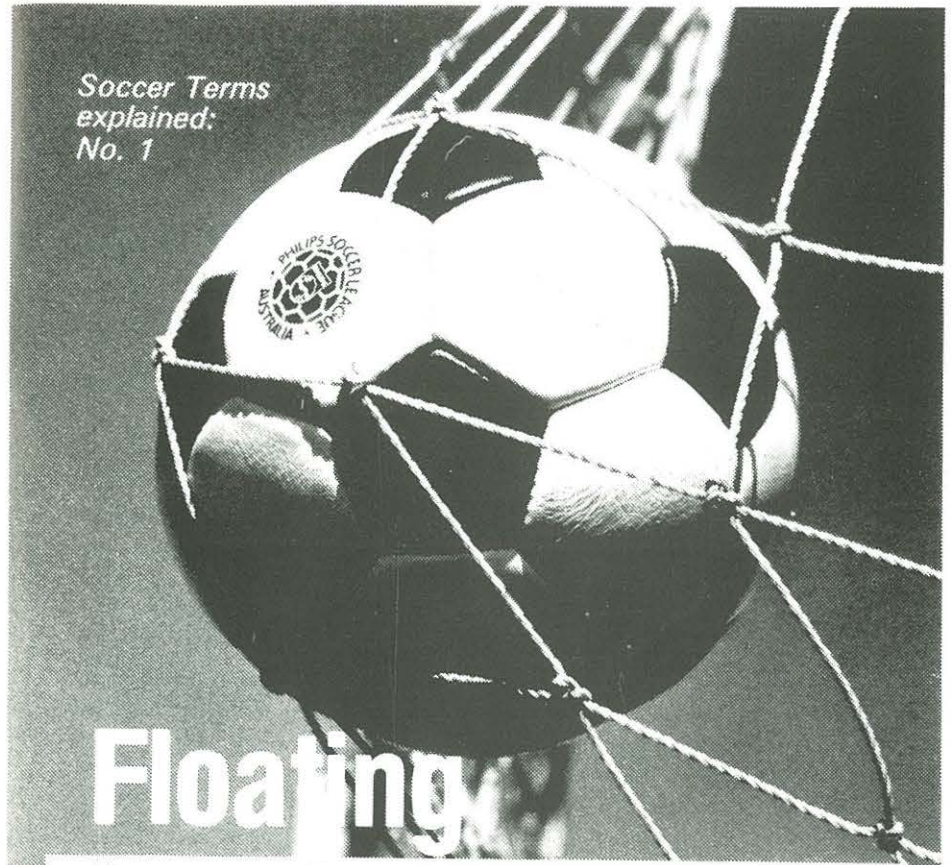


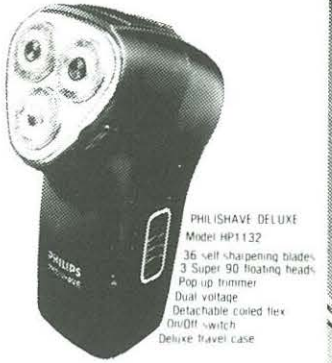
Soccer Terms explained: No. 1



Floating Header.

A term used to describe the action of heading the ball over the heads of opposing players/goalkeeper (i.e. "floating" it) either directly into the net or to a team mate.

Also used to describe the Philips Philishave Electric Shaver: its rotary action heads "float" to follow the contours of the face to give a fast, smooth, close shave.



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